

EcoRight Hydraulic Lime Mortars

Lime Mortar Testing: - Non-conformance testing

EcoRight has been producing NHL mortars since 2002, with a track record of consistency and high performance.

EcoRight Hydraulic Lime Mortars comply with the durability requirements of BS5628: Part 3:2001.

Materials used conform to the following standards:

Sand - BS EN 13139: 2002

Natural Hydraulic Lime (NHL) - BS EN 459: Part 1:2001

Calcium Lime (CL90) - BS EN 459: Part 1: 2001

Pigments - BS EN 12874

NHL mortars do not conform to BS EN 998 in that the testing set out in BS EN 1015 is not appropriate for NHL mortars. Lime mortar strengths are measured at 91 days as opposed to 28 days, as lime mortars gain strength more gradually compared to Portland cement bound mortars.

The following standards are for testing masonry mortar but unfortunately they do not cover lime-based mortars as there are no requirements to test lime mortars they're designed by volume and not strength, it's the grit sand that gives the mortar its strength

BS EN 1015 - Methods of test for mortar for masonry only covers Portland cement bound mortars

BS5628: Part 1 Code specifies characteristic compressive and flexural strengths for masonry built in Portland cement bound mortars. Masonry built in lime mortar is not covered.

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EcoRight Ltd is a member of **The Building Limes Forum**, a charitable organisation which works Internationally to promote research and education and to encourage expertise and understanding in the use of building limes.



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It is difficult to compare the characteristic compressive and flexural strengths of masonry constructed with lime-based mortar and cement-based mortar at present on the basis that the data available for walls constructed with lime-based mortars is limited in terms of the range of brick strengths tested.

It is important to note that lime mortar is specified for its elasticity (and other reasons) and elasticity tends to have an inverse relationship to strength.

Thus, testing strength could be considered totally inappropriate

Consequently, in the absence of a harmonised European Standard (BSEN) it is not possible to standardise lime mortar testing any test results may be irrelevant and are open to interpretation.

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